

Capitulum XVIII

The general focus here concerns writing and spelling. The action happens in the *lūdus* and our characters are Diodorus and his students.

I. Demonstrative pronouns/adjectives

- A. *īdem, eadem, idem* (the same, cf. the word identical) is a compound of *is, ea, id* and the suffix *-dem*. That suffix causes certain spelling changes in some of the forms of the pronoun: *īdem* (nom, masc. sg.), *eundem/eandem* (acc. masc/fem. sg.), *idem* (nom/acc. neut. sg.), *eōrundem/eōrandem* (gen. masc & neut/fem. pl.).
- B. *quisque, quaeque, quodque* (each) - in this chapter we see the other forms besides the masculine forms introduced in chapter 17.

II. Irregular superlative adjective formation

- A. Adjectives ending in *-er*, whether of the 1st & 2nd declension or of the 3rd declension, form superlatives in *-errimus*: e.g., *pulcherrimus, -a, -um*; *pigerrimus, -a, -um*; *acerrimus, -a, -um*.
- B. Four adjectives have superlatives ending in *-limus*: *facillimus (facilis)*, *difficillimus (difficilis)*, *humillimus (humilis)*, and *gracillimus (gracilis)*.

III. Regular adverb formation - remember that adverbs can modify sometimes just words (verbs, adjectives and other adverbs) and sometimes phrases

A. positive degree

- 1. 1st & 2nd declensions - to the stem (feminine form minus *-a*) add *-ē*: e.g., *longus, -a, -um* → *longē*; *pulcher, pulchra, pulchrum* → *pulchrē*
- 2. 3rd declension - to the stem (genitive form minus *-is*) add *-iter*: e.g., *fortis* → *fortiter*; *brevis* → *breviter*

B. comparative degree

- 1. use neuter form of the comparative adjective: *pulchrius, fortius*

C. superlative degree

- 1. add *-ē* to superlative stem: e.g., *stultissimē, pulcherrimē, brevissimē, facillimē*

IV. Numeral adverbs - there are not many of these in English: once, twice, thrice (now a bit archaic); for more we have to resort to phrases like four times, ten times, etc.

- A. special ones: *semel* (once), *bis* (twice), *ter* (thrice), *quater* (four times)
- B. regular ending: *-iēs (or iēns)*: e.g., *quīnquiēs, sexiēs, septiēs*, etc.
- C. how many times and so many times are *quotiēs* and *totiēs*

V. Introduction to the passive of *facere*. If you think a minute, you will notice that for seventeen chapters we have never seen any passive form for this verb. The reason is that it has a completely different form: *fiō, fierī, factus esse*.

A. Meaning: be made, be brought about, become, happen

1. The on-line Christmas card from Pope Benedict XVI in 2005: *Expergiscere, homo: quia pro te Deus factus est homo* (quoting St. Augustine)
2. A common bumper sticker: *Stercus fit*.

B. Compounds of *facere* (*efficere, inficere, dēficere*) form the passive regularly.

VI. Another meaning for *cum*. As a conjunction it may serve to introduce a sudden occurrence. Consider this paragraph (ll. 127-131: *Tum Titus, quī duās litterās deesse videt, sīc incipit: "Magister! Mārcus bis . . ." – cum Mārcus stilum dūrum in partem corporis eius mollissimam premit! Titus tacet nec finem sententiae facere audet. Magister vērō hoc nōn animadvertit.* [Then Titus, who sees that two letters are missing, starts like this: "Teacher! Twice Marcus. . ." – and then (i.e., when) Marcus jabs his hard stylus into the softest part of his body. Titus stops talking and does not dare finish his utterance. But the teacher does not notice this.